

(i) Certified proof of reenlistment (after 6 years of active duty service), or certification of past active duty status of 12 years, issued by the authorizing official of the executive department in which the applicant serves or has served, which certifies that the applicant has the required honorable active duty service and commitment. The authorizing official need not be at a level above the "local command". The certification must be submitted with Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er), or Special Immigrant; and

(ii) Birth certificate of the applicant establishing that the applicant is a national of an independent state which maintains a treaty or agreement allowing nationals of that state to enlist in the United States Armed Forces each year.

(2) Any documents submitted in support of the petition must meet the evidentiary requirements as set forth in 8 CFR part 103.

(3) Submission of an original Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty; Form G-325b, Biographic Information; and Form N-426, Request for Certification of Military or Naval Service, is not required for approval of a petition for special immigrant status.

(e) *Decision.* The petitioner will be notified of the director's decision and, if the petition is denied, of the reasons for the denial. If the petition is denied, the petitioner will also be notified of the petitioner's right to appeal the decision to the Associate Commissioner for Examinations in accordance with 8 CFR part 103.

(f) *Revocation under section 205 of the Act.* An alien who has been granted special immigrant classification under section 101(a)(27)(K) of the Act must meet the qualifications set forth in the Act at the time he or she is admitted to the United States for lawful permanent residence. If an Armed Forces special immigrant ceases to be a qualified enlistee by failing to complete the required active duty service obligation for reasons other than an honorable discharge prior to entering the United States with an immigrant visa or approval of an application for adjustment of status to that of an alien lawfully admitted for permanent residence, the

petition designating his or her classification as a special immigrant is revoked automatically under the general provisions of section 205 of the Act. The Service shall obtain a current Form DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, from the appropriate executive department for verification of the alien's failure to maintain eligibility for the classification under section 101(a)(27)(K) of the Act.

[57 FR 33861, July 31, 1992, as amended at 58 FR 50836, Sept. 29, 1993]

§ 204.10 Petitions by, or for, certain scientists of the Commonwealth of Independent States or the Baltic states.

(a) *General.* A petition to classify an alien under section 203(b)(2) of the Act as a scientist of the eligible independent states of the former Soviet Union or the Baltic states must be filed on Form I-140, Immigrant Petition for Alien Worker. The petition may be filed by the alien, or anyone in the alien's behalf. The Service must approve a petition filed on behalf of the alien on or before October 24, 1996, or until 750 petitions have been approved on behalf of eligible scientists, whichever is earliest.

(b) *Jurisdiction.* Form I-140 must be filed with the service center having jurisdiction over the alien's place of intended residence in the United States, unless specifically designated for local filing by the Associate Commissioner for Examinations. To clarify that the petition is for a Soviet scientist, the petitioner should check the block in part 2 of Form I-140 which indicates that the petition is for "a member of the professions holding an advanced degree or an alien of exceptional ability" and clearly print the words "SOVIET SCIENTIST" in an available space in Part 2.

(c) *Priority date.* The priority date of any petition filed for this classification shall be the date the completed, signed petition (including all initial evidence and the correct fee) is properly filed with the Service.

(d) *Definitions.* As used in this section:

Baltic states means the sovereign nations of Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia.

Eligible independent states and Baltic scientists means aliens:

(i) Who are nationals of any of the independent states of the former Soviet Union or the Baltic states; and

(ii) Who are scientists or engineers who have expertise in a high-technology field which is clearly applicable to the design, development, or production of ballistic missiles, nuclear, biological, chemical, or other high-technology weapons of mass destruction, or who are working on the design, development, and production of ballistic missiles, nuclear, biological, chemical, or other high-technology weapons of mass destruction.

Independent states of the former Soviet Union means the sovereign nations of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

(e) *Initial evidence.* A petition for classification as a scientist of the independent states of the former Soviet Union or the Baltic states must be accompanied by:

(1) Evidence that the alien is a national of one of the independent states of the former Soviet Union or one of the Baltic states. Such evidence includes, but is not limited to, identifying page(s) from a passport issued by the former Soviet Union, or by one of the independent or Baltic states; and

(2) Evidence that the alien possesses exceptional ability in the field. Such evidence shall include:

(i) Form ETA 750B, Statement of Qualifications of Alien and a supplementary statement of relevant experience within the past ten years; and

(ii) Written testimony that the alien has expertise in a field described in paragraph (d) of this section, or that the alien is or has been working on a high-technology defense project or projects in a field described in paragraph (d) of this section, from either two recognized national or international experts in the same field or from the head or duly appointed designee of an agency of the Federal Government of the United States; and

(iii) Corroborative evidence of the claimed expertise, including the beneficiary's official Labor Record Book (Trudavaya Knizhka), any significant awards and publications, and other comparable evidence, or an explanation why the foregoing items cannot be submitted; or

(iv) In the case of a qualified scientist who establishes that he or she is unable to submit the initial evidence prescribed by paragraphs (e)(2) (ii) or (iii) of this section, a full explanation and statement of the facts concerning his or her eligibility. This statement must be sufficiently detailed so as to enable the Service to meaningfully consult with other government agencies as provided in paragraph (g) of this section.

(f) *No offer of employment required.* Neither an offer of employment nor a labor certification is required for this classification.

(g) *Consultation with other United States Government agencies.* In evaluating the claimed qualifications of applicants under this provision, the Service may consult with other United States Government agencies having expertise in defense matters including, but not limited to, the Department of Defense, the Department of State, and the Central Intelligence Agency. The Service may, in the exercise of discretion, accept a favorable report from such agency as evidence in lieu of the documentation prescribed in paragraphs (e)(2) (ii) and (iii) of this section.

(h) *Decision on and disposition of petition.* If the beneficiary is outside of the United States, or is in the United States but seeks to apply for an immigrant visa abroad, the approved petition will be forwarded by the service center to the Department of State's National Visa Center. If the beneficiary is in the United States and seeks to apply for adjustment of status, the approved petition will be retained at the service center for consideration with the application for adjustment of status. If the petition is denied, the petitioner will be notified of the reasons for the denial and of the right to appeal

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in accordance with the provisions of 8 CFR part 103.

[58 FR 30701, May 27, 1993, as amended at 60 FR 54030, Oct. 19, 1995]

§ 204.11 Special immigrant status for certain aliens declared dependent on a juvenile court (special immigrant juvenile).

(a) Definitions.

Eligible for long-term foster care means that a determination has been made by the juvenile court that family reunification is no longer a viable option. A child who is eligible for long-term foster care will normally be expected to remain in foster care until reaching the age of majority, unless the child is adopted or placed in a guardianship situation. For the purposes of establishing and maintaining eligibility for classification as a special immigrant juvenile, a child who has been adopted or placed in guardianship situation after having been found dependent upon a juvenile court in the United States will continue to be considered to be eligible for long-term foster care.

Juvenile court means a court located in the United States having jurisdiction under State law to make judicial determinations about the custody and care of juveniles.

(b) Petition for special immigrant juvenile. An alien may not be classified as a special immigrant juvenile unless the alien is the beneficiary of an approved petition to classify an alien as a special immigrant under section 101(a)(27) of the Act. The petition must be filed on Form I-360, Petition for Amerasian, Widow(er) or Special Immigrant.

(1) Who may file. The alien, or any person acting on the alien's behalf, may file the petition for special immigrant juvenile status. The person filing the petition is not required to be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States.

(2) Where to file. The petition must be filed at the district office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service having jurisdiction over the alien's place of residence in the United States.

(c) Eligibility. An alien is eligible for classification as a special immigrant under section 101(a)(27)(J) of the Act if the alien:

(1) Is under twenty-one years of age;

(2) Is unmarried;

(3) Has been declared dependent upon a juvenile court located in the United States in accordance with state law governing such declarations of dependency, while the alien was in the United States and under the jurisdiction of the court;

(4) Has been deemed eligible by the juvenile court for long-term foster care;

(5) Continues to be dependent upon the juvenile court and eligible for long-term foster care, such declaration, dependency or eligibility not having been vacated, terminated, or otherwise ended; and

(6) Has been the subject of judicial proceedings or administrative proceedings authorized or recognized by the juvenile court in which it has been determined that it would not be in the alien's best interest to be returned to the country of nationality or last habitual residence of the beneficiary or his or her parent or parents; or

(7) On November 29, 1990, met all the eligibility requirements for special immigrant juvenile status in paragraphs (c)(1) through (c)(6) of this section, and for whom a petition for classification as a special immigrant juvenile is filed on Form I-360 before June 1, 1994.

(d) Initial documents which must be submitted in support of the petition. (1) Documentary evidence of the alien's age, in the form of a birth certificate, passport, official foreign identity document issued by a foreign government, such as a Cartilla or a Cedula, or other document which in the discretion of the director establishes the beneficiary's age; and

(2) One or more documents which include:

(i) A juvenile court order, issued by a court of competent jurisdiction located in the United States, showing that the court has found the beneficiary to be dependent upon that court;

(ii) A juvenile court order, issued by a court of competent jurisdiction located in the United States, showing that the court has found the beneficiary eligible for long-term foster care; and